## **ABSTRACT**

The present invention has an object of improving the processing suitability of an antimicrobial product such as fiber or a film to which is added an antimicrobial composition that includes a silver-based antimicrobial agent such as silver ion-containing tetravalent metal phosphate-based antimicrobial particles.

The present invention is an antimicrobial composition that includes tetravalent metal phosphate-based antimicrobial particles represented by Formula (1) and inorganic compound particles having a Mohs hardness of equal to or less than 6, and the maximum particle size of the antimicrobial particles and the inorganic compound particles is substantially equal to or less than 10  $\mu$ m.

 $Ag_aQ_bM_2 (PO_4)_{3}\cdot nH_2O (1)$ 

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In the formula, Q denotes at least one type of ion selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal ion, an alkaline earth metal ion, ammonium ion, and hydrogen ion, M is a tetravalent metal ion,  $\underline{n}$  is a number satisfying  $0 \le n \le 6$ ,  $\underline{a}$  and  $\underline{b}$  are both positive numbers,  $\underline{m}$  is the valence of Q, and  $\underline{a} + \underline{m} \underline{b} = 1$ .

Furthermore, the present invention is an antimicrobial product that contains the antimicrobial composition.